



I DON'T THINK HE EVER WROTE A LOVE LETTER IN HIS LIFE, EXCEPT FOR THE ONE HE WROTE TO YOU.

I'M GLAD TO HEAR THAT.

AFTER ALL, MAKIO-SAN WAS IN LOVE WITH YOU FOR WELL OVER TEN YEARS...



THAT'S RIGHT. THE LETTER NEVER REACHED YOU.

I don't know anything about a love letter!

Why do you all keep asking about it?





I'M THE
ONE WHO
TOLD
HIM TO
WRITE IT.



That's
not
true!



What
do you
mean...?

IT WAS
NEVER
DELIVERED
TO YOU, SO
NATURALLY
YOU DON'T
KNOW
ABOUT IT.

BUT
THERE
TRULY
WAS A
LOVE
LETTER.



I remember
giving it to
Kyouko-san!!

I delivered
the letter!



Loved
me...?

He...

He
really...

OF
COURSE
HE DID.



I...

Y...

You
mean...

I don't
know
what to
say...





WHEN YOU
REMEMBER,
MAKIO-SAN
WILL
APPEAR.

AND WHEN
YOU DO,
EVERYTHING
WILL BE
FORGIVEN...

YOU
MUST
REMEMBER
WHAT
YOU DID.

YOU
MUST
REMEM-
BER HIM...
YOU MUST
REMEMBER
THAT
NIGHT.

THAT'S
RIGHT.



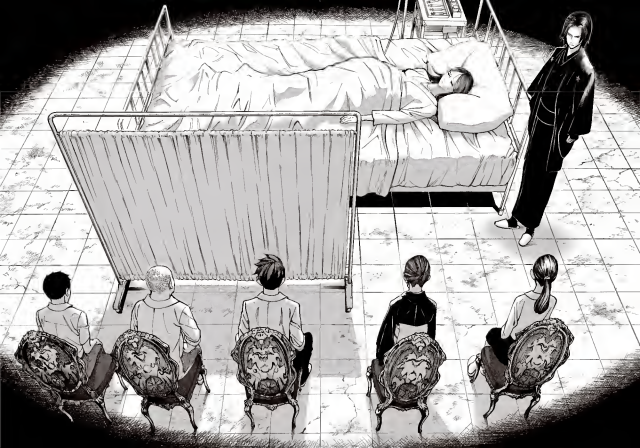
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Fudou Myou-ou is a personification of the ultimate Cosmic Buddha in esoteric sects of Buddhism. He's the leader of the Vajras ("Wisdom Rings") with the power to transform anger into salvation. He's often invoked in exorcism rituals. Buddhism is hell a complicated, but that's the gist of it.





Is he
reciting
religious
texts?

No... these
aren't like
any Buddhist
sutras that I've
ever heard.

They're more
like magic spells...

I CALL ON SANSHOU
KONRYU,
DEMON GOD OF
THE MOUNTAINS!

HEAR MY
REQUEST AND
DISPEL THESE
SPIRITS OF
WICKEDNESS!!



NOTE

The crosshatch symbol he makes is the seal of Ashiya Douma, a legendary sorcerer who was the rival of Abe no Seimei. The nine lines of the seal match the nine syllables of the "kuji" chant, used in esoteric Buddhist rituals.



SLASH

SLASH

SLASH

BIND THE
EVIL THAT
PLAGUES THE
HOUSE OF
KUNJI!!



KIN! PYOU!
TOW! SHA! KAI!
JIN! KETSU!
ZAI! ZEN!

MAY THE
WARRIOR GODS
CUT A PATH
THROUGH EVIL!!





I PRAY TO FUDOU
MYOU-O,
GOD WHO LIGHTS THE
FIRES, GOD WHO CUTS
THE WAVES, GOD WHO
RAIGES THE MOUNTAINS,
GOD WHO SINGS THE
HIDHRA'S PRAISES,
GOD WHO BRINGS
GREAT FORTUNE, GOD
WHO MOVES ALL
THAT IS UNDER
THE HEAVENS??

TURN BACK
THIS CURSE,
TURN BACK
THIS CURSE!!

NOTE

This is the "Fudou Myou-ou Spirit Reversal" chant, a rare ritual used on the island of Shikoku. The fact that she recognizes something as obscure proves that she's familiar with ancient magical practices from that area.



YOU'VE
HEARD
THEM
BEFORE,
HAVEN'T
YOU?

PLEASE,
STOP!!

THOSE
WORDS...



WHAT
ARE YOU
SAYING?



IF YOU DON'T LIKE
THAT ONE...
PERHAPS
I COULD
PERFORM
AN EXORCISM
WITH A BOW
AND ARROW
INSTEAD?

OR SOME-
THING SIMILAR,
AT ANY RATE.
THAT WAS THE
FUDOU MYOU-OU
SPIRIT SEVERAL
CENT.



YOU'RE
QUITE
FAMILIAR...

WITH
TOAD
MAGIC,
RIGHT?

PULLING THE
BOWSTRING IS
CALLED "MUSSEN"
(BIRD'S CRY)
AND FIRING THE
ARROW IS CALLED
"HINME"
(TOAD'S EYE).

THERE'S AN
OBSCURE
ONMYOJJI
RITUAL THAT
INVOLVES A
BOW AND
ARROW.

NOTE He's continuing the "Fudou Myou-ou Spirit Reversal" chant.



I WAS
ONLY DOING
WHAT MY
MOTHER DID
BEFORE MEH

FORGIVE ME!
PLEASE
FORGIVE ME!



AHH!!

FLOWERS OF
BLOOD WILL
BLOOM ON THE
OTHER SIDE,
AND DUST AND
SEEDS WILL...

SHUT
THE
FLICK
UP!







Ryoko-san?



GIVE ME
BACK MY
CHILD..

TREMBLE



YOU
BITCH..



DON'T
LIE TO
ME, YOU
BASTARD!

EEK!!



WAAH!!

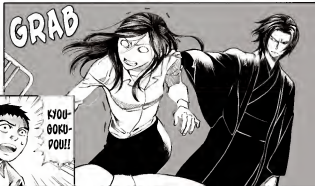
SHUD DER



IT WASN'T
MY FAULT!
I WAS AN
INNOCENT
BYSTANDER!

IF YOU WANT
TO BLAME
SOMEBODY,
BLAME YOUR
MOTHER!!

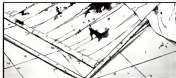














Wait...



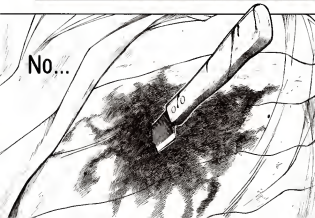
Why is
that baby
wearing
clothes?

But why...



Did she
give birth to
Fujimaki-
tempai?

Is that
Fujimaki-
tempai?



No...

That's
Kuonji
Makio's
corpse...





No, not again...



Not the spiders...





Who
is that
man...

BANG BANG

CAPTAIN,
WE CAN'T
LET THEM
TAKE US
ALIVE!!

THEY'RE
ALL DEAD!
THE WHOLE
PLATOON
GOT 'WIPE-
OUT'!!



YOU'VE
GOTTA
END IT
ALL!



THERE'S
NO GOING
BACK
NOW...
IT'S ALL
OVER...



There's
no going
back...





I need
to run...



JUST
DO IT!



We're not
supposed
to call it
"death."

It's "the
breaking
of jewels."

But once we're
broken, we can't
be put back
together again,
right?



Wait,
that's...



But I'm
tripping
over my
own feet.

It's too
dark...

I can't
see a
thing...





IT'S
11 AM.

WHAT
TIME IS
IT...?



ABOUT
THAT NIGHT
THAT WE
ESCAPED
UNDER ENEMY
FIRE...

I WAS
DREAMING
ABOUT
THE
WAR...



YOU PASSED
OUT AND
SLEPT ALL
NIGHT.



He jingled
a wind
chime...

That's
right...



Kiba and his
men came
rushing in...

And then
Wgouka's
stomach
ruptured...







ALRIGHT, FOR THE SAKE OF CONVENIENCE... LET'S MAKE THIS ROOM OUR HEADQUARTERS.

EVERYBODY IN THAT ROOM COMPLETELY LOST THEIR MIND.

I CAN'T GET A CLEAR IDEA OF WHAT HAPPENED IN THERE.

AND NOW WE'VE GOT A CORPSE TO DEAL WITH, TOO.



WHAT HAPPENED TO KYOU-GOKUDOU?



I CAN'T EVEN FIGURE OUT WHAT THE CRIME WAS.

MURDER? CORPSE-DUMPING?

WELL, I DUNNO IT WASN'T REALLY DUMPED..



WHERE ARE THE KUON-JIS?



ANYWAY, I CAN'T GET ANSWERS OUT OF ANYBODY HERE.

SO I'VE BEEN WAITING FOR YOU TO WAKE UP.

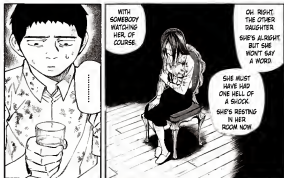


SORRY!

That's not how my brother's.

OH, HE VANISHED INTO THIN AIR, OF COURSE.

WHO KNOWS WHERE HE WENT...







WHAT
THE HELL!?
YOU'RE
SAYING THAT
SHE GAVE
BIRTH TO
A CORPSE!?



AND
THEN...
I REALIZED
THAT THE
BABY WAS
ACTUALLY
FUJIMAKI-
SEMPAI...



RIGHT AFTER
KYOGAKUDOU
FINISHED HIS
CHANT AND
RANG THAT
BIRD CHIME,
HER STOMACH
JUST
EXPLODED!

AND THAT'S
WHEN
THE CORPSE
CAME OUT...



I-I'M
JUST
TELLING
YOU WHAT
I SAW!!

SEKIGUCHI,
IF YOU'RE
FUCKING
WITH ME,
I SWORE I'LL
DRAG YOUR ASS
TO JAIL FOR
OBSTRUCTION
OF JUSTICE!!



















MAKIO IS
ALIVE!!
I KNOW
HE'S
ALIVE!!

THAT
WASN'T
MAKIO!!



WHERE
DID KYOUKO
MAKIO'S
CORPSE COME
FROM?

FIRST,
THE
CORPSE.



THAT...
THAT
WASN'T
HIM!!

WHAT!?!
BUT WE ALL
SAW HIS CORPSE!
YOU SAW
IT TOO!!



WHAT
AN EVIL
MAN...

EVIL...

WE MUST
HAVE PUT
IT INSIDE
KYOUKO!!



SO YOU'RE
ALSO CLAIMING
THAT KYOUKO
GAVE BIRTH
TO A CORPSE,
HUH?



THAT WAS
A HOMUN-
CULUS
THAT HE
MADE TO
LOOK LIKE
HIMSELF!!



WAIT A
MINUTE...
YOU DIDN'T
ACTUALLY
SEE HER
GIVE BIRTH,
DID YOU?



IT WAS....
IT WAS
THE HOMUN-
CULUS!!!

HER
STOMACH
RIPPED
IN HALF!
AND THEN
THAT THING
ROLLED
OUT....!!



That's right...
none of us
actually saw it!

There was a
screen in the way..



And
Byouko-san.

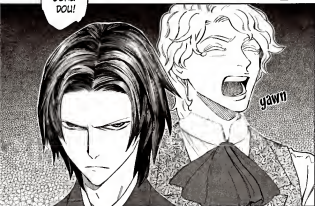
We couldn't see
anything until the screen
got knocked over.

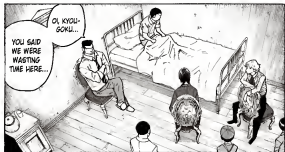
The only ones who
saw everything
were Kyuugokudou.



OH, SO YOU'RE
ALL STILL
SITTING AROUND
WASTING TIME?











WHAT?!



FUJIMAKI
HAS BEEN
LAYING DEAD
IN THAT ROOM
THE WHOLE
TIME.



BUT...

BUT
HOW...?

YOU
MEAN THAT
MAKIO-SAN
ACTUALLY
DIED BACK
WHEN HE
"DISAP-
PEARED..."

AND HE'S
BEEN LAYING
THERE ON
THE FLOOR
EVER SINCE?



YOU
MEAN...



I WENT IN
THAT ROOM
MYSELF!!

BUT...
THAT'S IMPOSSIBLE!

THERE
MUST HAVE
BEEN TONS OF
WITNESSES



THAT'S
RIGHT.



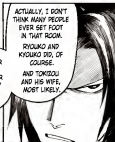
DR. NAITOU
BROKE DOWN
THE DOOR...
BUT I SUSPECT
HE WAS TOO
FRIGHTENED TO
LOOK INSIDE.

BUT THE
DIRECTOR NEVER
WENT NEAR IT,
AND THE MOTHER
PROBABLY ONLY
WENT AS FAR
AS THE DOOR.

ACTUALLY, I DON'T
THINK MANY PEOPLE
EVER SET FOOT
IN THAT ROOM.

RYOUDO AND
KYOUKO DID, OF
COURSE.

AND TOKIZOU
AND HIS WIFE,
MOST LIKELY.





I WASN'T
AWARE THAT
HER BODY
WAS IN SUCH
A FRAGILE
CONDITION...

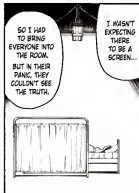
YES...

WELL, I WAS
HOPING THAT
YESTERDAY
WOULDN'T BE
QUITE SO
DRAMATIC.

IT WASN'T
MY INTENTION
TO PUT
KYOUKO-SAN
THROUGH
THAT.



BUT
KYOUGOKU,
THAT'S STILL
AT LEAST
FIVE PEOPLE
WHO WERE IN
THAT ROOM.
AND YESTER-
DAY...



SO I HAD
TO BRING
EVERYONE INTO
THE ROOM.

BUT IN THEIR
PANIC, THEY
COULDN'T SEE
THE TRUTH.

I WASN'T
EXPECTING
THERE
TO BE A
SCREEN...

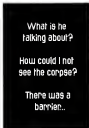


THEN WHAT
WERE YOU
ORIGINALLY
PLANNING,
NI-SAN?



I EXPECTED
NATOU TO
RUN, SO
I PLANNED
TO RING THE
WIND CHIME
AND ALERT
THE POLICE.

I THOUGHT
I'D BE ABLE
TO JUST OPEN
THE DOOR,
POINT AT THE
CORPSE, AND
BE DONE
WITH IT.







BUT
YOUR MIND
REFUSED
TO
ACCEPT IT.

SEKIGUCHI-
KUN,
YOU SAW THE
CORPSE...



...What?





